

My name is Jennifer Lussier and I am a parent from Plainfield.

I am writing you to ask for your support of **Raised Senate Bill 354**, a bill that will create a music therapy license in Connecticut . This bill is important because it will allow Connecticut citizens to more easily access music therapy services, and it will protect the public by ensuring that these services are provided by trained and qualified practitioners.

Please note that my support of licensure for music therapy is dependent on some language changes which have been submitted as written testimony by Jennifer Sokira on behalf of the CT Task Force. These changes ensure that the license is reflective of current board certification requirements in music therapy and is not limiting to the practices of Board Certified Music Therapists currently in CT.

My son was completely nonverbal with autism. He was using an AAC to communicate and some single words. Once music therapy began at school, his verbal output dramatically increased! Words turned into short sentences. 2 years later, he can finally sing songs! He has made social and communication gains that without music therapy may not have happened. It was the missing piece to his program.

For these reasons, I ask that you please vote “yes” on **Raised Senate Bill 354!**

Sincerely,

Jen Lussier

Connecticut Advocacy for Resources and Education, Inc.  
Family Advocacy Consultant